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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for on wish to have rejected articles returned, they ust in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

#### Secretary Morton on Rebates.

Several members of the Cabinet are in Washington and available for banquet purposes. It is therefore the more gratifying that the member of Mr. Roose-VELT's administrative family chosen to speak to the railroad men from abroad in behalf of the President, and to assure them of his good faith and evenhanded justice in the prosecution of such abuses in the transportation business as rebates and illegal discrimination in rates should have been none other than the Hon. PAUL MORTON, formerly of the Atchison, Topeka and Sante Fé.

Secretary Monton gave the delegates something more than a certificate of the President's just intentions. He even added his personal opinion on the general subject:

"The private sidetrack arrangements by which unfair inside rates have been enjoyed by some of the big industries of the country, the earning of more than a fair return on private car investments. the payment of commissions of various sorts or rebates or preferential rates in any form, ought to be entirely discontinued. I am sure there is not a railroad man here who does not heartily approve of this declaration. My own opinion is that if all wicious discriminations can be abolished the question of rates will adjust itself."

In simple justice to Secretary MORTON we feel ourselves impelled to say that for refined and well disguised humor this passage deserves to rank high among the masterpieces of mahogany oratory.

## Mayor Dunne's Revolution.

On April 4 of this year the Hon. ED-WARD F. DUNNE of Chicago issued to the public a statement of his views on the election that had resulted in the success of his candidacy for Mayor of electorate of New York compares favorthe city. In that statement Mayor- ably with those of other communities. elect DUNNE said:

"I regard my election by a majority of approxi mately 25,000, in view of the revolution in the management of public utilities that it portends, and in view of the tremendous financial interests involved upon the other side of this economic struggle, as a remarkable victory for the people of this city It means that Chicago, ever in the lead, which is the nerve center of America, will take the lead among American cities in municipalizing its pub lie utilities, if we can, as I confidently believe we esa, introduce this great reform in Chicago."

One month after these hopeful words were spoken the city of Chicago finds its highways in the control of an organization whose only object is to prevent their use for business purposes by any citizen outside the membership of their association. Peaceable residents, guilty of no offense against the laws of the State or ordinances of the municipality, are prevented by violence from earning their living in the public thoroughfares. Business men are not allowed to transport the raw material for their factories or the finished products for their customers through the streets. Coal merchants cannot deliver the fuel ordered by their patrons. Shopkeepers cannot keep their bargains to send articles sold by them to the homes of the purchasers.

The public highways are public utilities of the first class. That they should be operated for the benefit of all the citizens of the community will not be disputed. If the "revolution in the management of public utilities" which on April 4 EDWARD F. DUNNE believed his election "portended" is on exhibition now in Chicago, the residents of that community are entitled to the hearty sympathy of their fellow Americans.

# Adulterating the Truth.

Export gives a page in its latest issue to elaborating the text: "Almost every kind | the life or liberty of a person accused is of food in North America is systemat- at stake any such compromise goes to ically adulterated." The text and the the extreme of morally criminal responstartling facts with which it is bolstered sibility. are supplied by a Mr. NISUS of New York, who warns the German public against buying our food exports.

According to this person our official chemists assert that only the rich among us can pay the excessive price required to assure pure food. Our physicians say that the great majority of cases of strong, but no chain of evidence was favorite situation for the residences of illness are due to food adulteration. In constructed by the prosecution which some of the more wealthy citizens of the spite of the fact that two groups of chil- established that guilt beyond perad- town. dren, those under 1 year old and those venture. The disagreement in the jury under 5 years old, formed larger percentages in our total population in 1900 | the outside public who had studied the than in 1890, Mr. NISUS finds that the evidence most carefully and intellipercentage of deaths among little chil- gently. If the question of this woman's dren is constantly increasing, and the fact is traced to impure food.

This writer's bill of particulars is too long to quote, but a few conspicuous was tried. In at least a minority of both for example, an open but not an enitems are cited as a sample of his imag- | there was the reasonable doubt as to the | closed place. inative talent. Our bread is, in large sufficiency of the evidence to establish part, made of chalk, moldy flour and guilt of which the law gives the accused alum; our coffee is chiefly ground cocoa- the benefit, even where a moral con- it seems, was made by that excellent if nut shells and pulverized hog liver; all viction that the woman killed the man kinds of leaves treated with Berlin was ineffaceable. blue or indigo and gypsum pass as A question arises as to the wisdom of tea; much of the whisky we drink is the methods of a prosecuting officer in an immediate menace to life because it such a case as this, and it involves philocontains so much wood alcohol; aniline sophical and psychological consideradyes are important in the coloring of tions. The habit of the District Attorney butter, tinned vegetables and fruits; or the assistant to whom he delegates copper is used to give an extra green to the prosecution of a case of prime public canned peas; and wood alcohol salt- interest like that of the PATTERSON peter and borax are employed in the woman is to pursue it with an ardor and preparation of every kind of preserved a zeal intensified by pride of opinion and

meat and fish. two years the importation of a number | tation. This is far from an unmitigated of German food products into this coun- evil, if, indeed, it is actually an evil. If try has been forbidden because of their the prosecuting officer should be lukeadulteration. Somebody has been hit, warm in his efforts for conviction, or

We are not proud of the rascals at suffer fatally. But it is questionable

free advertising here; but such cheap sensationalism as that of the alleged Mr. NISUS was not necessary to secure the passage of the pure food bill and other measures against fraud which are not

mentioned in the Export article. This German newspaper usually seems respectable, though dull. In the present case, either it is the victim of an imposition or it has wittingly spread abroad an adulteration of the truth.

## Good Sense From a Bishop.

The Right Rev. HENRY CODMAN POT-TER, Protestant Episcopal Bishop of New York, visited Pennsylvania Wednesday and made an address to the members of the diocesan convention in the Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany Political and economic subjects engross much of Bishop POTTER's attention, and he naturally made some remarks on the municipal problems that press for solution in the City of Brotherly Love. A part of his address included these sensible words:

"The real solution lies in the ballot. I know you will say that the decent citizens have failed again and again in that direction. But they must do the work right. Give Philadelphia such a housecleaning as we have had several times in New York and the corrupt politicians will surely be crushed and driven out.

"No, I don't think that the balance of party power had everything to do with it in New York. Nor is the accepted Philadelphia theory correct that it is impossible to purge the ballot in what you term your 'slum' or downtown wards, where remendous majorities for the organization are rolled up. We have a foreign population several times as great in our city, and yet we manage to keep our polls fairly clean."

In the last sentence Bishop POTTER stated a fact too frequently lost to sight or deliberately disregarded by those who discuss the political affairs of New York city. It is the custom among partizan enemies of the organization that for many years has controlled our municipal departments to attribute its victories at the polls to the buying or intimidation of the voters. Some persons may really believe this to be the truth, for the delusion has been cultivated assiduously by self-seeking politicians of the Odell stripe and uninformed "reformers" whose good intentions were more than counterbalanced by their lack

of knowledge. Not only are New York's polls "fairly clean," but the elections conducted here are free from corruption to a remarkable degree. In its independence, honesty, good judgment and thoughtfulness the large and small, throughout the nation. These facts ambitious politicians would do well to bear in mind, and it is gratify. ing to learn that they have made an impression on so eminent an apostle of civic purity as Bishop POTTER.

# A Failure of Justice.

The disagreement and discharge of the jury in the case of the PATTERSON woman will probably end the efforts of the District Attorney to convict her of criminal responsibility for the death of her paramour. In her two trials the juries were unable to come to any decision as to her guilt or innocence, in spite of the very great expense of the county in ob-

taining the evidence presented at them. Such disagreement, however, was inevitable. In the first place, she is a young woman, and only when the evidence of jurder against a young woman is incon testable is her conviction by a jury at all probable. The evidence against the PATTERSON woman was wholly circumstantial. Nothing more than a hypothesis of guilt was established by the State. Undoubtedly it was a strong hypothesis, but, after all, it was metaphysical rather than based on proved facts pointing to guilt beyond any reasonable doubt, though it justified the presumption of guilt which caused the disagreement of the jury.

It is better for the cause of law and justice that jurymen should refuse to come to an agreement on a verdict rather than that any of them should yield his conscientious and reasonable doubt in order to secure unanimity. Even in a case where only rights of property are concerned, or in any purely civil case, a jury which reaches a verdict through the compromise of the convictions of The German commercial newspaper any part of it violates its oath and brings the jury system into disrepute. When

> It was inevitable, therefore, to every one who followed the evidence in the case of the PATTERSON woman, both at the first and at the second trials, that there would be a conscientious disagreement by the juries. The inference of the guilt of the woman was doubtless room represented the disagreement of

the ambition to win a professional vic-The milk in this cocoanut is that within | tory, with the consequent gain in repuand he retaliates by trying to frighten should exhibit to a jury any indifference city was exactly the purpose in the laying German consumers of our foodstuffs. | as to it, the interests of justice would

falsified foods. They have had much defeat of justice if by the manner of his an encroachment on the Park and has prosecution he gives the jury or any member of it an impression that he is pursuing the accused as the huntaman would pursue a wild beast, simply as game, for thereby he is likely to provoke ful pleasure ground as the proudest sympathy for the accused and consequently prejudice fatal to a just decision It is questionable if the prosecuting officer would not conserve the ends of justice to better effect if he conducted and argued his case in the unimpassioned spirit which makes the charge of the trial Judge so powerful with a jury. Not his argument, no matter how able or how intense in its expression. but only the chain of evidence he forges can win the victory for justice. Would not his summing up, therefore, be more effective with the jury and the public if it was simply a clear and logical and judicial knitting together of the threads of testimony? Passion and prejudice belong rather to the defense of the accused, but even there when they are great and obvious they constitute an element of weakness

Inasmuch as the trial of a person accused of a capital offense is the most solemn proceeding that can take place in a court of justice, the exhibition in it of any mere pride of opinion or greed of purely professional triumph is a shocking impediment in the path of justice. They outrage the sense of propriety in

both jury and public. The abortive trial of this woman, on which so great an amount of the money of the county was expended, is not creditable to our civilization, and more especially to our machinery of justice. She will now go free, in all probability, yet a conviction of her guilt of the murder of her paramour remains in the public mind, though unquestionably the prosecution did not establish it by evidence beyond reasonable doubt as required by the law.

## Rate Fixing in Canada.

The rate fixing microbe has enlarged the field of its activities. It has crossed the Canadian border and is busy with the people of Canada and with the Dominion Parliament. The question of discrimination in freight rates by Canadian railways to the injury of Canadian shippers came up for Parliamentary consideration on April 27. It provoked a lively discussion, and it is not probable that the matter will die without an active investigation.

The Committee on Agriculture was the instigator of the movement. It was pointed out that Canadian railway rates were much higher than American rates, and that Canadian shippers, paricularly the farmers, were thereby handicapped in the market. It was also declared that merchandise shipped from Michigan over routes crossing Canadian territory secured lower rates than similar merchandise shipped over the same lines from points in Canada, although the Canadian points lay nearer the port of destination.

One of the wheels in our neighbor's political machinery is a Railway Commission which is, under the laws of its creation, vested with wide power and authority. During the debate on April 27 Mr. R. L. BORDEN, the leader of the Conservative party, stated that while he feared that there might be some legal difficulties in the way, the Railway Commission undoubtedly had jurisdiction in the matter of rates. The Hon. Mr EMMERSON contended that no material difficulty existed, because the Railway Commission could of its own motion inquire into and determine the complaint. He said that the commission was amply empowered by the Railway act to remedy grievances respecting rates, whether local, standard or through traffic. He said that it also had power to deal with the "rates made by a combination of several railway companies, to annul and void them, to make a new tariff altogether, and to specify what proportion each railway should receive.

If Canada will set her wheels in motion and grind out an arrangement that will be just to all and satisfactory to everybody, it will remain for us to cross the line and sit as humble students at the feet of the Canadian Gamaliel who drafted a law that will satisfy both those who gain and those who lose.

#### For the Destruction of the Central Park.

A project to bring about changes in the Central Park which violate its public purpose and involve the perversion of its whole artistic plan is now urged by a few citizens of New York. This scheme, in brief, is to take down the wall along the Fifth avenue side of the Park and sacrifice a part of the enclosure for the construction of a wide boulevard to give additional consequence to that already

Of course, if the wishes of these citizens were gratified there would be no justification in refusing the request of other citizens to tear down the wall and shave off part of its space on the other guilt had been referred to that public, it sides of the Park for the construction of would have been left undecided the same similar boulevards. The Park then as it was by the jury before whom she would become like the City Hall Park,

> The first suggestion of such a perversion of the scheme of the Central Park, somewhat eccentric citizen the Hon. ROBERT B. ROOSEVELT, an uncle of the President. He even goes so far as to advise that the original plan shall be destroyed wholly. "Give us a park further uptown," is his demand, "and let there be streets and roadways from Fifth avenue to Eighth avenue south of the Mall, crossing the esplanade." According to Mr. ROOSEVELT'S notion. the Central Park as it is now laid out is "an irredeemable disfigurement of the city"; "an ugly, inappropriate square of wilderness slapped down into the middle of the city, cutting off the East Side from the West Side, and about as picturesque as a cabbage patch." But to be such a "wilderness" in the middle of the out of the Central Park.

Mr. ROOSEVELT has reduced to an home who add to their gains by selling if he does not help to bring about the absurdity this Fifth avenue project for

indicated the reasons why its proposal will never be taken seriously by the Park Commission or by the people of New York, who look on their great and beautiornament of the town.

The next thirty days, and particularly the next thirt; hours, will show better than volumes of biography and hours of oratory whether the Hon. FRANK WAYLAND HIGGINS is a man or a minion.

The women who on being arrested for illegal use of an automobile hailed a passing member of a prominent family with the exclamation, "Hey, RECOIE, we're pinched!" succeeded in expressing in that laconic utterance their contempt for the law, for the officer of the law, for the approaching court of justice, for modesty of behavior in public, for elegance of language and for feminine refinement. But in this comprehensive achievement in expression they were unable to equal the condensed intensity of the opinion entertained as to their kind by men and women of another kind.

Whatever happens, don't forget Senator DRESCREE.

A despatch from Pittsburg, erstwhile the fountain of charity, states that the local branch of the Young Men's Christian Association has refused admittance to three actors solely on account of their profession. The question of the personal, social and fitness of the particular applicants seems not to have been considered, the pronunciamento being directed without exception to a whole class.

Thus do Church and Stage part company. The Pittsburg enthusiasts must surely have forgotten the origin of the modern English drams. Alas for the nun Roswitta, abbess of Gandersheim in the tenth century, and the other ecclesiastical writers of the early miracle, mystery and morality plays!

Yellow journalism on the part of the London Daily Mail has brought a boomerang on its head in a rather amusing way. A motor car in a country village ran over a boy, killing him, and hastened away. The Daily Mail took up the case, offering a reward of £100 for the detection of the offenders and publishing daily scarehead articles attacking them and motorists in general.

When the car was discovered it turned out to be the property of Mr. HARMSWORTH, brother of the proprietor of the Daily Mail, who is a candidate for Parliament and was using his automobile for electioneering purposes.

# UNCLE SAM, BANKER.

The National Banking System During Five Years Past. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir.

national banking record is one of steady progress in spite of the occasional defalcation of some official. No law, however stringent, can prevent a man from doing wrong if he wanth to do wrong. All it can do is to punish him afterward. These betrayals nfidence, like the latest at Milwaukee oreflection on our generally satisfactory banking system.

, the record of our national banking

March 14, 1900 .... October 31 1903 . October 31 1903... June 30, 1904... October 31, 1904... April 80, 1905.... was the minimum national bank capital. That is just what was desired to accomplish by the amendment. The money has to go where it is most wanted—namely, into the smaller towns. An increase in circulation of \$227,009,000 in practically four years means much to the business interests of the United States. This \$227,009,000 circulation was accompanied with a \$708,000,000 increase in the companied with a \$708,000,000 increase in the

companied with a \$708,000,000 increase in the deposit of Federal bonds to secure the circulation.

During April, 1905, forty-two new national banks were chartered, with \$4,420,000 paid up capital. Of the forty-two not less than twenty-nine were of the smaller class referred to. In all, since March 14, 1900, the labresses were 2,46% in the number of banks and \$140,000,000 in the paid up capital.

Viewed as a whole, Uncle Sam, Banker, is a success.

WALTER J. BALLARD.

SCHENECTADY, May 4.

# Equitable Reform.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I am a policyholder in the Equitable Life of fifteen rears standing and am naturally interested in the present differences involving the management. Will you allow me to make one or two observations?

Is it too much to expect the warring interests to resign and permit the organization of a real board at the head of which there ought to be one of the gentlemen whose names have been mentioned and on which the policyholders ought to be fully represented?

There is another point I wish to make in

the form of a question. Is it not true that the business of our large insurance companies has been based, and is now based, on the old English mortality tables? Is it not true also that as the average of human life is much longer than it was in 1840, these tables are reenonsible largely for the enormous surpluses umulated, inasmuch as reserves have been out of proportion to the estimated require Il my surmises are true-and I wish you would answer these questions editorially, your able manner-I suggest that the Equitable revise its mortality tables and that ther then announce that, on a new basis, a certain amount of the existing surplus will be used for the reduction of existing premiums and on premiums on new business. This would be giving back to policyholders a part of their own, and I onine that they could not take care of the new business offering. The general agents who recently read the round robin to the management ought to get together and demand that this be done. Then, with the management modified as suggested, this Equitable question, a menace

to the financial world, would be solved. NEW YORK, MAY 4.

Treating Central Park's Dying Trees To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the matter of the morthund trees in Central Park, my curiosity has often been aroused by the fact that so far as I have been able to observe no attempt her have been able to observe no attempt has been made to render available what nourishment may still remain in the impoverished soil by loosening earth about the roots of the trees and by a

generous supply of water.

In Paris the trees along the boulevards are kept alive and green in this way. I made this same sug-gestion some years ago to the park authorities and was told that the whole question, was being studied. The earth around the roots of the trees in our streets and parks is so hard that rain can hardly percolate ugh it and dissolve into the nutrient elements. while as to artificial irrigation of the tree roots
I have not had the good fortune to see it once lied in New York.

Not Mutualization; Socialization. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In all the commont and discussion over the Equitable muddle have not once seen a word as to the desirability of the taking over of life insurance by the State (using that word in its most general sense). I personally think that there is no function that the ate either now carries on or which it leaves to private enterprise which from its very nature more demands taking out of exploitation for private gain—and it is so exploited universally—and being put into the hands of the State exclusively than does

UNIVERSITY CLUB, Providence, R. L., May 4. The Beauty Scole of Flowers.

THE PERSON NAMED OF THE PE

CHICAGO'S LABOR TROUBLE.

CHICAGO, May 4.-Notwithstanding the noidents of riot and assault reported in connection with Chicago's latest strike, the affair has as yet made only a very slight dent in the surface of the daily life of the city. A visitor unaware that anything unusual was going on might stay for several days without knowing that a serious strike was in progress if he did not see or was unable to read the newspapers. There is no apparent degrease in the stream of street traffic, and the sidewalks show their usual crowds.

The police stand in couples or in larger numbers at points of possible disturbance Wagons are occasionally seen moving at a foot pace under police escort, but only merchandise coming from or going to certain establishments, comparativel; few in number, is thus attended. Hacks, cabs and the great majority of delivery wagons and teams move as usual. and there in the vicinity of the establishments concerned groups of the ourious and the idle line the curbetone on the chance of seeing something exciting. Perhaps the most notable feature is really the least noticed. That is an air of alert expectancy which pervades the moving throng. A wagon halts, as wagons do, for another to get out of its way. The crowd stops. If s policeman's helmet appears, the crowd watches to see something of that of which it has read in the papers—a brickbat or s bottle thrown, a driver assaulted, or frightened driver drawing a revolver.

A caravan of a half dozen drays bearing the name of a boycotted department store comes up through the shopping district, a line of policemen on either side of it. crowd stops and watches, and a hundred or two boys and a few men follow the teams, half hoping that somebody will shout "scab" and throw a brick. This happens once in a while, though not frequently. probability that anything will happen is small, but the crowd is alert with apprehension or anticipation, even though it goes its way and attends to its business.

Yet the situation is big with possibilities, and the real confusion of the issue only emphasizes the danger. The matter, grown away from its original cause, now really stands between some three or four thousand teamsters and the Employers' Association, which is acting for and on account of the concerns affected by the strike. Just how many men are out does not appear to be known with accuracy. Up to noon on Tuesday concerns affected had called on the Mayor for police protection for a total of about 1,900 wagons. Most, if not all, of these concerns are members of the Employers' Association; and the plan is to place all of their teaming and package delivering in the hands of the Employers Teaming Association, a branch of the main organization. To this end a professional strike breaker has been called in, and men are being imported, largely from St. Louis and Kansas City, to take the places of the strikers.

It is an unfortunate circumstance that a large number of the strike breakers are negroes. This creates animosity and excites resentment. There are many in the city who see in the step a tendency toward the provocation of assault and rioting, and events since the arrival of the negroes i considerable numbers have lent support to the view. The question has also been raised whether the importation of such an element cannot be legally stopped as a menace to the peace and order of the city.

The Employers' Association is encountering opposition from a very responsible quarter. The regular trucking companies employing union labor and claiming a total investment of some \$25,000,000 in horses, harnesses, wagons, barns and other real estate, are reported to-day as in the field in competition with the Employers' Teaming Association, which is seeking to establish the "open shop" in the trucking and delivery business. Many of the regular trucking companies have fought their fight with the unions and wish no more of it. They and their men have come to terms on the basis of employment for union men only, and their forces have not been touched by the present strike. The competition of this group is a serious matter if it is maintained. The employers' organization desires to establish, once and for all, the freedom of city traffic from the dictation of the teamsters' unions, which may at any time practically tie up all commercial

movement A rumor has been current of the possible acquisition, through purchase by the Employers' Teaming Association, of all the trucking interests of the city. This would involve a huge though doubtless feasible enterprise. So assumed, it would become purely business affair, in which many of those whose business was done by the company would become stockholders in the enterprise. The matter has probably been discussed, but there is no reason as yet for belief that it is definitely contem-

plated. As the affair stands to-day, some of Chicago's largest wholesale and retail concerns, department stores and express companies are boycotted by the unions. Among the express companies are the United States, Wells, Fargo & Co., National, Adams and American. Among the boy-cotted merchants are Marshall Field & Co. the J. V. Farwell Company, the Siegel Cooper Company, Montgomery Ward & Co., The Fair, Franklin MacVeagh & Co. Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co.; Mandel Bros., and Sprague, Warner & Co. Some of the large grocery bouses and some of the large coal dealers are among the affected. and this gives rise to apprehension for the supply of food and fuel.

Both sides are stubborn and both seem determined to win. The special danger appears in the possible extension of the strike, either through sympathy or in the form of enforced suspension of individual industries as a result of the failure to obtain supplies or to make deliveries of merchandise. An early settlement is not now expected, notwithstanding the presence of

the strike breaker and his crew. There is persistent talk of referring the matter to President Roosevelt when he gets here on May 10. There is much reason to believe that Mr. Roosevelt has done all the strike breaking that was on his list and that he is most unlikely to make any new entries. Certain unique features led him to intervene in the anthracite coal strike. But that experience burned his fingers. and he is not likely to try it over again, particularly in a routine conflict between organized labor and organized society between commercial interests and that which the Chicago Erening Post calls the "tyrannical methods of the striking team

Fruit and Sport in the Financial District. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you kindly, if you can, and if Commissioner McAdoc cannot, tell me why:

are liberally strewn with banana peels?

Boys are allowed to make a ball field of New and eaver streets and to indulge in prolonged games of craps in the same? Boys are allowed to pelt one another with banana

Mothod. s-He who laughs last laughs best Bella--Yes: and she who cries first cries best. THE RAILWAY CONGRESS.

Vice-President Fairbanks Opens It and Extends a Welcome to the Delegates. WASHINGTON, May 4.-The International Railway Congress was formally opened at 11 o'clock this morning by Vice-President Fairbanks, who acted in that capacity at the request of President Roosevelt. The opening ceremonies took place in the ball-room of the New Willard Hotel, and there were present about four hundred railway men, a majority of whom were foreigners. A number of ladies occupied the gallery ver the speakers' platform.

After extending a welcome to the delegates, and speaking of the rapid growth

of railroads, Mr. Fairbanks said: "In the rapid evolution of this great instrument of civilization it is not unnatural that abuses arise. As we survey the past we can see how much experience and enlightened judgment have served to eradicate many of the wrongs which have existed. It is too much to expect, where such an agency touches the social and industrial interests of so many people at so many points, that all of the inequalities should have been removed. We may hope that a spirit of justice and ampler knowledge may lead to the removal of the present defects and the prevention of evils in the

"The railway, by its very nature, is charged with great public duties. It is in the highest sense a public servant and must discharge its functions with impartiality, giving to all whom it serves just treatment. Equality of service is the predicate of good relations between the railway and the public. It is of the utmost importance that unjust favoritism should not obtain: that rates should be open and enjoyed by all alike. Nothing so quickly and surely lays the foundation of distrust and discontent as secrecy where there and discontent as secrecy where there should be publicity, as inequality where there should equality. Transportation charges must be fixed with a just regard to the owners, the employees and the public. The interests of none can be disregarded without ultimate injury to all."

After Vice-President Fairbanks had the constitutions of the statement of the content of the statement After Vice-President Fairbanks had finished speaking, Stuyvesant Fish of the Illinois Central Railway and president of the American section of the congress, delivered an address which was devoted to a history of railway progress in the United States and England from the first

United States and England locomotive to the present time.

Mr. Fish said it was a mistake for Americans to assume that there was nothing about the management and operation of railways that they could railways that about the management and operation of European railways that they could study with advantage. There is much for us to learn from Europeans, he de-clared, but American railway men are not as a rule well acquainted with railway conditions on the Continent. There is much better knowledge of the transporta-tion business as it exists in Great Britain where the language is the same as our own.

The foreign delegates to the congress
were entertained this afternoon with an
excursion to Mount Vernon, a large party going on special electric cars. At 9 o clock this evening the trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery, assisted by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, gave a reception to the delegates at the art gallery.

The American rall way exhibit was visited to the base of the control of torsign to-day by a large number of foreign as well as American visitors. The seventy-one buildings erected for the exhibit are scattered over the grounds of the Washing-ton Monument, within a few minutes walk from the principal hotels, and each exhibit is in charge of men trained in the several

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETS. Annual Election of Officers-Choate and

is in charge of men trained in the several

Porter Honorary Members. Morris K. Jesup was reelected president of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday. Cornelius Bliss, William Butler Duncan and Seth Low were elected vice-presidents to serve until 1909. James G. Cannon was elected treasurer, George Wilson secretary and J. Edward Simmons chairman of the executive committee. There was only one

Joseph H. Choate and Gen. Horace Porter were elected honorary members of the organization. In his speech after he was reelected president Mr. Jesup said that the membership had nearly reached the limit, 1,500, and that while forty-two members had been lost by death and resignation in the last year, yet the increase for the year was about forty. Mr. Jesup read the names of the members who were elected previous to 1860 and who are still living. They are: Samuel Sloane, Paul N. Spofford. They are: Samuel Sloane, Paul N. Spofford, William Butler Duncan, John T. Terry, Levi P. Morton, John Austin Stevens, Henry Hentz, Alexander White, Stephen W. Carey and A. Foster Higgins.

Before the election of officers a resolution was presented and adopted calling for a

was presented and adopted calling for a special meeting of the Chamber of Com-merce to be held Thursday next at 3 P. M. to unveil the statue of the late Abram S. Hewitt and to hear an address by Charles

## LONG ACRE SQUARE TRAFFIC. New Regulations for It to Go Into Effect Tuesday-Sharp Turns.

Traffic regulations for Long Acre Square will be put into effect on Tuesday. Traffic through Forty-second street will be diverted to Forty-first street, and traffic on Seventh avenue and Broadway will be kept near the curb and will not be allowed to cross "How about the islands of safety?" Com-

missioner Mc'doo was asked. There are several in Long Acre Square. "Those things." said Mr. McAdoo, "are

about as much use in saving life as a spit tall would be in stopping a tattleship in action. Still, they will remain there. can't remove them."
Mr. McAdoo said that most drivers made their turns too short in turning from the avenues into West Fifty-seventh street. Most of the traffic now goes through that street instead of Fifty-ninth street. "I think that I will have a couple of iron

dogs made to project at the corners." he said. "I'll make them with such sharp points that the wheels will be cut off if the drivers don't give them a wide berth." BOYS DESTROY COLLECTION. Shoot Off Heads and Bills of Stuffed Birds

With Bean Shooters.

Boys got into the house formerly occu-pied by Dr. Frank Baldwin at 691 Willoughby avenue, Brooklyn, on Wednesday afternoon and destroyed a costly collection of stuffed birds which had taken the physician years to get together. Dr. Baldwin moved to \$47 Hancock street on Monday, but removed only part of his household goods. He was in the Willoughby avenue house Wednesday after he had gone away eight boys fo an entrance through a rear window. collected metal goods valued at \$100 and then removed from Dr. Baldwin's col-lection of birds a large glass case. With bean shooters they shot off the birds' heads and bills and completed the destruction by pulling out the feathers and scatter-ing them over the floor. A junk dealer to whom the boys had sold the metal gave information which led to their arrest.

### CITY HALL REVIVAL MEETINGS. Mayor Can't License Them and Refers Committee to President Ahearn.

A delegation of the evangelistic committee which is arranging to hold a series of outdoor meetings during the summer called yesterday on the Mayor to get leave to conduct services at noon on the steps of to conduct services at noon on the steps of the City Hall. The visitors were the Rev. Drs. C. L. Goodell, J. G. Fagg, Henry Mottet, James Talcott, J. B. Ely and F. M. Jacobs. The Mayor referred them to Borough President Ahearn, who has juris-diction of all the public buildings in this borough, and to Police Commissioner Moddoe, from whom permits for meetings in public places must be obtained. RAILROAD RATE HEARING.

Prof. Hugo Meyer and Other Witnesse Opposed to Federal Regulation of Rates WASHINGTON, May 4 .- Prof. Hugo R. Meyer of the University of Chicago appeared before the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce to-day by invitation to give information in regard to railroad rates in this country and abroad. In his statement to-day he dealt chiefly with the railroad conditions in Germany, in which country the railroads are owned by the Government. Of American railroad rates he said:

"American railway rates are the result of arbitration and warfare; they have been heated and forged and welded and pounded and hammered into their present shape, and they are about as nearly right as practical people can make them. The people of the United States see little of the sectional struggle which Federal regulation of rates would engender; the inevitable results would be mileage rates and provincial industries."

W. A. Harris of Chicago. formerly United States Senstor from Kansas, appeared before the committee as the representative of the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association and the National Live Stock Association. He contended that the rates on livestock from the southwest were extortionate and urged that authority be given the Interstate Commerce Con

fix rates. Senator Elkins called Mr. Harris's attention to the advance in the price of meat, and asked if Mr. Harris would have a commission fix the price of the product. Mr. Harris's answer to this was that he would first like to see the result of "some matters which the Govern-ment was investigating," referring to the beef inquiry. He drew the distinction be-tween the cattle business and the railroad business that a man who invested his money in railroads entered into a contract to discharge a public service, subject to to discharge a public service, subject to regulation and control, and made the in-vestment with that understanding. Mr. Harris was followed by three West-

ern men who are interested extensively in industrial enterprises in the West. All of them expressed the hope that the rate making power would not be given to the Interstate Commerce Commission. To give the Commission the right to fix rates would mean, one of them said, "a general disturbance of our present splendid indus trial condition.

THE TAX ON SAVINGS BANKS. Gov. Higgins Urges the Repeal of the Law

Imposing a Tax on Undivided Profits. ALBANY, May 4 .- Gov. Higgins sent to the Legislature this afternoon a special message calling attention to his recommendation made in his annual message that the Odell law taxing the surplus and undivided profits of savings banks be repealed. The message says:

"A bill to carry into effect this recommendation, introduced on the first day of the legislative session, still remains in committee. With the unexpected and increasing demands for the payment of claims against the State which have been held by the courts to be justly due, with the equally unexpected curtailment of revenue, also due to judicial decisions, and with the unavoidable extraordinary expenses of this session, doubt has arisen in the minds of some as to the wisdom of surrendering any source of present revenue. "It has been urged that the Empire State

cannot be either penurious or niggardly in the exercise of its public functions; that it should not in honor and good faith seek to hinder nor delay its creditors, and that it cannot with prudence release the savings banks from the burden of this tax at the present time.

present time.

"But pledges to the people must faithfully be kept and cannot safely be ignored on the specious plea of necessity. The Republican party is committed to this repeal by the repeated public declarations of its candidates. It cannot afford to refuse to do its duty in this regard. The reasons do its duty in this regard. The reasons for relieving the savings tanks from this tax as a matter of justice are more cogent now than at the opening of the session.

"I therefore recommend that the Legislature take immediate favorable action on the bill to repeal this tax."

It is not certain that the desired legislature taxes are some content of the content of th

n the bill to repeal this tax."
It is not certain that the desired legislalon will be enacted at this session. Toight Senators Page and Grady made an earnest effort to have the rules suspen in order to pass the bill, in the Senate, but Senator Raines objected, saying he wanted time to consider the matter.

ASSEMBLY PASSES SUPPLY BILL It Carries Over \$3,000,000-Two Bills

Passed Over Mayor McClellan's Veto. ALBANY, May 4.-The Assembly passed the annual supply bill to-day, carrying appropriations amounting to over \$3,000,000. The supplemental supply bill will be reported and passed to-morrow, but the amount it will carry will not be known until the bill is printed, which will be after the session adjourns.

The Assembly passed two bills over Mayor McCiellan's veto by party votes. They

were Assemblyman Agnew's, in the in terests of title insurance companies, to compel actions for encroachments upon streets to be begun within one year from the time the proposed act takes effect, which is immediately upon the Governor signing it; and Assemblyman Prentice's, introducing the Bertillion system of identification for all persons arrested for drunkenness in New York city.

Senator Saxe's bill, in the interest of the

New Hotel Gotham bar in New York city, also passed the Assembly. Gov. Higgins has signed Senator Lawis's bill, exempting from the Collateral Inheritance Tax law bequests to charitable, religious, educational and benevolent societies.

VANDERBILTS MUST WAIT. Congress Must Make an Appropriation to Pay Their Claim.

Washington, May 4 .- The claim against the Government of William K. Vanderbilt and others as administrators of the estate of Cornelius Vanderbilt, although allowed by decree of the United States Supreme Court, cannot be paid until Congress makes

a specific appropriation for the purpose.

The will of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt provided that certain interests should be held in trust by the executors for the benefit of his son, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, who was to receive one-half of the estate when he should become 30 years of age and the other half when he should reach the age of 35 years. This right of Alfred G. Vander-bilt was appraised at \$5,119 612. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue ruled that the entire interest should be

assessed as a vested estate and a legacy tax amounting to \$311,281 was paid to the Government under protest. The executors appealed to the court and won, and the amount, including accrued interest, which the Government will have to refund when Congress appropriates the money is about

NEW AUTO CLUBHOUSE. Plans for Eight Story Fireproof Building

in West 54th Street. The Automobile Club of America has filed plans for its new clubhouse, at 247 to 249 West Fifty-fourth street. Its present quarters are at Fifth avenue and Fifty-eighth

The new building is to be an eight story fireproof edifice, with a frontage of 181 feet and a depth of 87 feet and having an extension 80 feet wide and 13 feet deep is to be lighted by seven rows of ornamental windows extending from the second story to the roof. The main story will contain to the roof. The main story will contain the assembly chamber, a grill room and a library. The meszanine floor above it will have billiard and card rooms, and the basement and ground floor and all the upper stories will be devoted to the storage of automobiles. The building is to have a façade of brick and ornamental iron, with trimmings of marble and terra cotta. Its cost is estimated at \$350,000.